

## **Historic, archived document**

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• ADVERTISER

WRITER

• PROGRAM TITLE

OK

CHICAGO OUTLET

( (MAY) )

11:30-12:30 PM

( MARCH 19, DATE 1937 )

( FRIDAY ) DAY

• PRODUCTION

ANNOUNCER

ENGINEER

• REMARKS



ANNOUNCER: "Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers"

CHIEF: "Country, Ranger's Song"

ANNOUNCER: One of the foremost men of this country who early realized the necessity for forest conservation was the late Doctor Franklin B. Rouss, of Louisville. He was long his profession was Medicine, but he gave a large amount of time and energy to all branches of science and was considered an authority on many. His utterance of his danger of exhausting the timber supply in this country, brought on as a result of wholesale forest destruction, caused him to dedicate his efforts to forestry. His persistence as a naturalist gave weight to his opinions. His medical nature of his arguments caused him to be met with opposition and ridicule. Doctor Rouss was long an individualist. By his own collecting specimens and from his little world well known to be prepared in time, as his knowledge with concrete examples and facts. Some 60 years ago, Dr. Rouss became the first Government Forester. And now, when we think of the first forest ranger, Ranger Jim McShane and his assistant, Dave Miller, who were working in their office until late in the evening. They were just finished a long day's work, as usual. Good night. Good night.



JERRY: (FADE IN) Gosh, Jim, this office work gets me down. I didn't join the Forest Service to punch a typewriter.

JIM: Well, Jerry, when you get to be a Ranger, you can figure on doing anything from shootin' wildcats to washing your own socks. It's an all around job.

JERRY: Yeah, but this doggone report is so long. Couldn't they cut it down or something?

JIM: Ever hear of Doctor Hough, Jerry?

JERRY: You mean Franklin B. Hough?

JIM: Uhuh.

JERRY: Sure. He was the first man to make an official report on the condition of forest lands in this country.

JIM: That's right. How'd you like to have to make a report like his?

JERRY: Gosh, that must've been a pretty big job, all right, - starting from scratch like he did.

JIM: Yep. Must have been a fighter, that fella. He never would give up. He wrote articles and made speeches to scientists, universities, tanners, lumbermen and anybody he could get to listen to him. There was a certain lumberman, they say, that gave him a lot of opposition. But Doctor Hough went right to his office to talk to him personally. I guess that must have been some time about eighteen seventy-six. This lumberman - I don't know what his name was - (FADING) we'll call him Lindstrom --





(TRANSITION CHORD FOR FLASH-BACK)

LINDSTROM: (SELF PLEASED, ROBUST VOICE) (FADE IN) Well I'll tell you, Doctor -- Doctor -- What did you say your name is?

DOCTOR: Doctor Franklin Hough

LINDSTROM: Hough. Sure. I'm not so good at names, but I never forget a face. Well, as I was saying, You scientists should get wise to yourselves. These fancy ideas of yours about saving the forests for posterity are all --

DOCTOR: It's not only posterity we have to think of, Mr. Lindstrom, but we --

LINDSTROM: I know. I know. They're pretty good ideas. I know. But they aren't practical. I've been in the lumbering business for twenty three years and I've never lost money. The trouble with you people is that you waste all your time taking up high sounding theories that don't have the thing to do with real business. Now I represent the biggest lumber interests in this country and with 7 million people practical ideas. I have what I call a practical idea. But Mr. Lindstrom, what I'm telling you is practical. Now say you represent one of the big lumber interests in this country. I said the biggest lumber interests.



BOONEN: Now on the largest timber interests in this country. But when your men cut the timber from a piece of forest land they strip it bare. They don't leave hardly a tree standing, and then you let fires come along and burn up what's left. No care is taken to provide for a future cutting on the same piece of land.

LINCOLN: What do we need a second cutting for? There's plenty of timber and there always will be.

BOONEN: Not if you cut all of it. How do you expect trees to grow on barren land? The only ways you can prevent the destruction of your supply of timber are to have someone look after them. Don't let your men have to plant the trees that you've already stripped.

LINCOLN: Plant trees you mean?

BOONEN: Of course.

LINCOLN: (LAUGHING LOUDLY). That's a good one, Boonen. I'll have to tell it to the boys at the club. Well, you just go right ahead. If you want to plant trees, and have them grow, fine. (LAUGHING)

BOONEN: Perhaps I shall. You look at the situation. You're engaged in a business that demands seriously and to the hilt the use of material and yet you do everything to keep your hands off the money and the source.

LINCOLN: That's it. You're making money, aren't you?



HOUGH: Yes. You're making money now. But how about ten years from now? Lumbering is a lot like farming, if you want to think about it. A good farmer has to know more about his business than the methods for harvesting crops. Fact is, he has to know more about planting and tending crops than anything else. But you men don't think about anything but harvesting. Just because nature helps you in the planting, don't deceive yourselves that she can produce timber as fast as you can cut it. You've got to run your business like the farmers, you've got to treat timber like a crop -- or you won't have any business to run.

LINDBET: If I ever want any help to run my business I can tell you I won't ask any crack-brained scientists for it.

HOUGH: (CALMLY) I'm sure you won't, Mr. Lindetree. But there'll be a time when you'll wish you had.

LINDBET: Well, let me tell you something now, Doctor. You can talk about planting trees and seedling all you want to, but we have a system that costs that so Kingston Come. Whenever we get the trees cut in one place, all we need to do is pull stakes and move on to new timber. "Go west, young man!" (LAUGHS) That's us, all right.

HOUGH: But you can't always move west to new timber.

LINDBET: It's a pretty long stretch across this country, Doctor. (LAUGHS)



Doc as far as I'm concerned. As for the present instruction will let this country as soon as the pain of your head.

RIGHT: Might as well be the mightiest day as a country doctor as far as you and I are concerned — Well, I guess there's no harm in letting you scientists have an hour or so. (LAUGHS)

DOC: Thank you, sir. I suppose you know there's a bill before congress now for the appointment of a Commissioner of Forestry. (FADING) Good day, Mr. Lindstrom. It's glad to have had the opportunity of talking with you —

(INTERLUDE)

Good morning Doctor, good

(FADE IN) Good morning, Mrs. How's the weather of your country today?







• AJAX: Well, do-ah, Doctor. That's all. The Representative is  
 • gettin' down to work. You's lookin' mighty good  
 today.

• DOUGH: It's going to be a great day, Ajax. You'll remember it  
 for a long time.

• AJAX: Is we gonna git de day off?

• DOUGH: (CHUCKLES) Well, I wouldn't vouch for that.

• AJAX: Wha's gonna happen?

• DOUGH: The House of Representatives is going to pass a bill for  
 the appointment of a Commissioner of Forestry.

• AJAX: Yes, uh, dat'll be mighty nice -- what is dat, Doctor?  
 You'll find out soon enough.

• DOUGH: I agree, Mr. Ajax. Now, Doctor, let's go down to the  
 Da, yes. Good morning, Tannell.

• TANNELL: (PAUSE IN) I'm glad to see you, Doctor Dough. Morning,  
 Ajax.

• AJAX: Yes, uh.

• TANNELL: Our bill's next up.

• DOUGH: Good. I'm just in time. I was afraid I'd be late. Got  
 wound up talking to a meeting of scientists. It's an  
 occasion when I can get someone to sit still long enough to  
 listen to one of my lectures on Forestry. But usually  
 walked out, so I just kept on talking.



DUNNELL: I'm afraid I wasn't so successful as you.

HOUGH: Oh, nonsense, man. You're too easily discouraged. The Lands Committee reported favorably on our bill. President Grant's in favor of it. Not to mention some of the Cabinet and the Lands Commissioner.

DUNNELL: I know. But none of them has a vote.

HOUGH: (LAUGHS) You're being over-cautious, man. Why, they can't turn down a measure like that

DUNNELL: They won't turn it down. I talked to some of the members this morning. I'm afraid they'll just --- Oh, well, perhaps I am being over-cautious. But I haven't been around this place six years for nothing

HOUGH: Nobody knows that better than I. If it hadn't been for your help, the bill wouldn't have been out of committee yet

DUNNELL: I certainly hope it pulls through. I think I'd better be getting back. (FADE) I'll let you know what happens

HOUGH: I'll wait here for you.

DUNNELL: (OFF) All right.

AJAX: He don't look so happy as you do, Docah

HOUGH: I suppose it's old stuff for him, seeing a bill you're interested in come up in Congress, but it's my first time

AJAX: (CHUCKLES) Yes, suh, Docah, you acks jes' like I did de fust time I wux gonna be a pappy. Yes, suh



Like you did the first time you added to your ball.

Jes' de fast time. Doctah.

That's a good one on me, Ajax. I should be very composed and calm under any circumstances, shouldn't I?

I don't know, Doctah. It don't make no difference how much experience you's had with other folks. It's jes' de same when it hits you.

(CHUCKLES) That's right, Ajax. Oh, there goes a gentleman I know -- (CALLING) Mr. Lindstrom.

(OFF) Yes? You speaking to me?

Come over here a moment -- you don't remember me?

(FADE IN) Why, of course I do. You were in my office last week waiting on to help save the Doctor. (LAUGH) What did you say your name is?

Doctor Franklin Bough.

Of course. Of course. I'm not around as much, but I never forget a face. Say, I've been doing some of those electron articles about forestry that you see in all the papers now.

That's interesting. What did you think of them?

You didn't give them any thought. I knew they were all worthless to start with.

You can change your mind within two weeks, can't you?

I don't know what for.





HOBBS:

I believe I mentioned to you that there is a bill before Congress for the appointment of a Commissioner of Forestry.

LINDSTROM:

What of it? You don't think it's going to get through, do you?

HOBBS:

I rather think it will, yes.

LINDSTROM:

I wouldn't be too sure of myself, if I were you. We lumbermen have been running our business and paying our taxes since the first tree was cut and sold in this country. Congress isn't going to monkey with a business that's doing as well as lumbering. You scientists ought to leave things alone that are none of your affair.

HOBBS:

Some day, Lindstrom, this country will see the value of scientific forestry, and of science and research in all branches of life. There'll come a time when the scientists will be invited to act as advisors to work in cooperation with you business men. It may be fifty or a hundred years before it happens. But it will come. People will scoff at science. And the scientists will make mistakes. Just as you make them. It won't be a Sunday School picnic. But the merger of science and business will be of immense value to this country, if only we give it a fighting chance. I wish you luck, Doctor. You'll need it. I guess I'll get under way now. Some gentlemen around here I want to talk to. (FADING) Goodbye.





HOUGH: Goodbye, Lindstrom.

AJAX: Doctah Hough, heah comes de Congressman back. He sho' nuff don' look happy now. No, suh.

HOUGH: What's happened, Dunnell? They haven't had time to take any action on our bill --

DUNNELL: (FADE IN) That's exactly it, Doctor. There won't be any action taken.

HOUGH: Won't be any action? I don't understand!

DUNNELL: The bill was tabled.

HOUGH: Tabled? -- You mean they aren't --

DUNNELL: They aren't going to take any action on it at all. That's the usual method for disposing of unwanted bills.

HOUGH: But the Committee reported --

DUNNELL: I know they did. But I talked to some of them before they went in this morning.

HOUGH: Yes.

DUNNELL: There seems to have been a change of opinion.

HOUGH: But is there any particular reason they had for turning it down?

DUNNELL: They seemed to think the country doesn't need a forestry department. They said we aren't ready for it.



ROUGH

Wasn't ready for it? What do they mean by saying that for it? So the forests have to be stripped to bare ground before anything can be done? Give 'em a trip to China to let them see what happens to a country that loses its forests. One look at those naked hills would send them scampering back home to set up a Forestry Department ten times the size we asked for. It's up to you and me to carry the torch, Danrell. We've got to make them see it. (FADING) We've got to make them see it. --

MUSIC

(INTERLUDE)

PAUSE

(PAUSE 1st) (SOUND OF DOOR OPENING) In you over a while?

PAUSE

Good as all. After. Still at it?

PAUSE

That's been working out fine here this time too you are. That time.

PAUSE

I guess I have. At last.

PAUSE

I've thinkin' worse I should go get you a car and put it right here to be a reminder. You see I would want time and some leather.

PAUSE

Well, this is the last day, after. I won't be around any other time.

PAUSE

Let's fight. Saturday's after dinner. It's not an even bet but it's all of yours.

PAUSE

I guess.



AJAX: Does you think it's gonna git through?

HOUGH: I can't tell.

AJAX: You ain't so sure like you was de las' time.

HOUGH: Ajax, you should never be sure of anything, until it's history. And then don't be too sure of it.

AJAX: Yes, suh Dat sho' is right. I remembah once when I wuz tryin' to shoot a eight point and dey was thirteen of us in de game. I got down on my knees an' --

HOUGH: Yes, I know, Ajax. You told me about it. Have you seen Congressman Dunnell?

AJAX: Oh, lawdy. Yes suh. I sho' did see him. He say to tell you he would be out heah jes' as soon as he find out what's gonna happen to de bill.

LINDST: (FADE IN) Well hello, there Doctor.

HOUGH: Well Mr Lindstrom.

LINDST: Still trying to get that bill of yours through? (LAUG-S)

HOUGH: Yes.

LINDST: You sure are a fool for punishment.

HOUGH: Every man in his own fashion, I guess.

LINDST: (LAUGHS) Right as rain, Doctor. And today's the last chance you'll have 'till the next session. If you're going to save any forests you'd better do it quick.

HOUGH: Yes, Ajax mentioned that.



Well, even so there is. Yes, I've been reading some  
your articles in the paper lately. Won't you send me  
magazine. Hardly, without seeing an article in country  
by Doctor -- Franklin -- oh -- what's your name?

Doctor Franklin Houghton.

Sure, I remember. I've got an good of names, but I never  
forgot a fact.

Yes, I have.

Don't waste your time Doctor. All that stuff about  
the barren hills of China and the forestry methods of  
Europe won't get you anywhere. All that stuff is to do  
is to look in their own back yards and keep our eyes  
fixed on the world that there's plenty of timber in  
this country.

All that stuff is to do is to look a country over with the  
eyes and power of European business. Always so. Always so.

Well, Doctor, I guess you know as well as I do that there's  
a hundred money prophets in every part of the world.

So I do.

Is the saying true, "It's the best thing --" and so forth?  
(Laughs)

(SIDE IN) Doctor Houghton! Doctor Houghton! It's Houghton!  
Will you please?





HOUSE: (LAUGHED) I know it well, Dismal. I know it. I know  
old to pass it this time.

OVERALL: The allotment's only two thousand dollars, but --

HOUSE: But it's a beginning. Inoc's worth something.

OVERALL: It went through as an amendment to the fire road bill.

UNDER: What's all the fuss about, Doctor?

HOUSE: They've passed our bill.

UNDER: Passed it, eh? Hum. What's this money going to -- that  
issue like that --

UNDER: There's a sum of two thousand dollars provided for the  
investigation of timber resources and research in the  
field of --

UNDER: Investigation? What are you talking about? The timber  
business is all right.

HOUSE: But this is for research.

UNDER: Investigating the lumber business, eh -- that sort of thing  
of their heads.

HOUSE: It's not for investigating anybody's business. It's for  
research.

UNDER: (LID OFF) What's just a little to keep in mind. What  
you're trying to do is to get rid of the lumbering  
business to save their little brains. I know of that. I  
know of this country. I've got a job and I've got  
to see that I have something to say about this.



DUNNELL:

Well, I wouldn't get so perturbed about it, sir. As I said to you, not a great deal of harm can be done for two thousand soldiers.

HOWARD:

I beg your pardon, Mr. Dunnell. I should have introduced you gentlemen. I'd like you to meet Mr. Lindstrom --  
Congressman --

LINDBLUM:

Lindstrom! Lindstrom! Ralph Lindstrom.

HOWARD:

Sorry. I'm not so good at names, but I don't forget a face.

LINDBLUM:

I'm going to see about this. (FADING) Two thousand soldiers not trying to undermine the biggest business in --

DUNNELL:

What did you say his name is?

HOWARD:

(CHUCKLES) I guess I was thinking out loud.

DUNNELL:

Most of the industrial men glad to give open-minded consideration to any intelligent proposition.

HOWARD:

But there are a lot of people so artificial in attitude as Lindstrom. Our work's only begun.

DUNNELL:

It'll let us down from now on.

HOWARD:

Oh, no, contrary. It will be more difficult. For in fact the lot of proving to tell what society that all the things we've said and written are true. People are ignorant, they have prejudices. They want concrete testimony, and nicely put testimony.



• COWLEY: But the need for forest management isn't theoretical.  
• It's actual. It's because President Grant will appoint me  
to carry on the work. (FADING) There's nobody in the  
country so able as you Dr. Hough, to do this important --

• MUSIC (INTERLUDE)

• GUN: (FADE IN) And that was sixty years ago, Jerry.

• JERRY: President Grant did appoint Doctor Hough, didn't he?

• JIM: He didn't lose any time about it, either.

• JERRY: But all Doctor Hough did was make a report on the condition  
of timber resources. I don't see how that could have  
amounted to much.

• JIM: That wasn't all, by any means, and it's like the old story  
Jerry. "Big oaks from little acorns grow." Everything had  
to have a beginning. And that was the beginning of  
forestry in the United States.

• MUSIC (FINALE)

• ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers come to you on the Farm and  
Home Hour every Friday as a presentation of the National  
Broadcasting Company with the cooperation of the United  
States Forest Service.

• 12/15/37: 10:00 AM

